



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE**

October 21, 1998

**H.R. 3494
Protection of Children from Sexual Predators Act of 1998**

As cleared by the Congress on October 12, 1998

H.R. 3494 would establish new crimes related to sexual offenses against children and increase fines for some existing crimes involving sexual abuse of children. The act also would expand the government's forfeiture authority to certain sexual offenses. This legislation could affect both direct spending and receipts, but CBO estimates that any effects would not be significant.

Enacting H.R. 3494 could increase revenues, but CBO expects that the federal government would not collect a significant amount of additional fines from sexual predators who are prosecuted under federal law. Such fines are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts, or revenues, which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and spent in the following year. Because any increase in direct spending would equal the fines collected with a one-year lag, the additional direct spending also would be insignificant. CBO further estimates that enacting H.R. 3494 would result in little or no change in the amount of receipts deposited in the Assets Forfeiture Fund.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.